

## **MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

### **INFORMATION SUMMARY... for your review**

**DATE:**

October 10, 2000

**SUBJECT:**

Recommendation for the Future Designation of the CANAMEX Corridor Through the Maricopa Region

**SUMMARY:**

At the July Regional Council Transportation Subcommittee meeting, an update was provided on the identification of a CANAMEX Corridor through the Maricopa region. Study of the corridor was initiated by MAG and ADOT, and a consultant was hired by ADOT to assist in the compilation of evaluation data for the route options. Numerous public meetings were held, and on September 14, 2000, the Governor's CANAMEX Task Force approved a resolution regarding additional routes to be eliminated from consideration and a resolution defining the route to be considered for future designation. Staff is in agreement with the action of the CANAMEX Task Force and has incorporated this action into the CANAMEX Report. A resolution has been prepared for consideration. Please refer to the attached.

The route being proposed for the CANAMEX Corridor would be from Interstate 10 westerly along Interstate 8 and up State Route 85 to Interstate 10. The ultimate westerly bypass around Wickenburg identified by ADOT in the Design Concept Report is also being recommended as part of the route. The remaining portion, yet to be determined between the bypass and Interstate 10, would be located outside of the MAG nonattainment boundary as identified in the 1999 Serious Area Plan for PM-10.

At the October 6, 2000 meeting of the Transportation Review Committee at which this agenda item was discussed, the representative for the Town of Buckeye voiced support for the report and resolution as well as the need for further study as recommended in the report for the northern section. Additionally, the representative for Maricopa County stated that the County Transportation Advisory Board had indicated that it wanted the County Department of Transportation to participate as a full partner in the upcoming study, as the remaining alternatives under consideration for the northern section were County facilities.

For information, the letter dated September 11, 2000 from the Arizona Department of Public Safety stating their preference for the Corridor to be located west of the White Tank Mountains (eliminating Loop 303 and any other alternatives to the east) is also attached.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

Agency, public and other stakeholder input has been received throughout the project including on the draft technical report and draft recommendations. Open houses and public meetings were held in Sun City West, Buckeye and Wickenburg on August 31, September 5 and 7 respectively. Attendance at the Sun City West meeting was approximately 600; attendance at the other two meetings was approximately 50 each. Transcripts and a compilation of written comments received at these meetings are attached. Significant opposition was voiced to consideration of Loop 303. Opposition to consideration of the Sun Valley Parkway was also voiced. Support for further study for a connection between the SR 85 / I-10 junction and the Wickenburg Bypass was noted.

**PROS & CONS:**

PROS: Approval of the report and the resolution helps to eliminate uncertainty for local agencies, the public and other stakeholders, with regard to the selection of a corridor. The approvals would as well represent a step in the process to designate the corridor in federal legislation and in the future possibly obtain federal funding for the recommended improvements.

CONS: Federal funding assistance may be limited for this category of projects.

**TECHNICAL & POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

TECHNICAL: The CANAMEX Corridor route through Maricopa County has not been defined to date. The report recommendations and resolution reflect regional interests for the corridor.

POLICY: Development of the CANAMEX Corridor is consistent with the policy goals of the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan.

**ACTION NEEDED:**

Recommend approval of the MAG/ADOT CANAMEX report and approval of the resolution for the future designation of the CANAMEX Corridor through the Maricopa region.

**PRIOR COMMITTEE ACTIONS:**

Transportation Review Committee: At the October 6, 2000 meeting, the Transportation Review Committee unanimously recommended approving the MAG/ADOT CANAMEX report and approving the resolution for the future designation of the CANAMEX Corridor through the Maricopa region.

**MEMBERS ATTENDING**

Wickenburg: Fred Carpenter, Chairman  
ADOT: Chuck Eaton for Victor Mendez  
Avondale: William Bates  
Buckeye: Joe Blanton  
Chandler: Bryan Patterson  
\*Fountain Hills: Randy Harrel  
Gilbert: Tami Ryall  
Glendale: Jim Book  
Goodyear: Cato Esquivel

Litchfield Park: Mike Cartsonis  
Maricopa County: Tom Buick  
Mesa: Jeff Martin  
Paradise Valley: Tom Martinsen  
Peoria: David Moody  
Phoenix: Lynn Timmons for Tom Callow  
RPTA: Bryan Jungwirth for Ken Driggs  
Scottsdale: John Little  
Surprise: Ellis Perl

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ATTENDING**

Regional Bicycle Task Force: Patrick  
McDermott, Chandler  
\*Street Committee: Gary Thomas, Gilbert  
ITS Committee: Jim Book

\*Pedestrian Working Group: Steve Hancock,  
Mesa for Mike Branham, Surprise

\* Members neither present nor represented by proxy.

**CONTACT PERSON:**

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